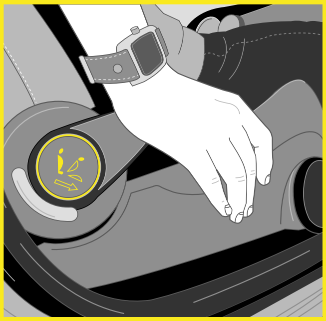
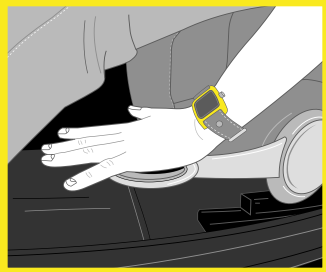
TOP 10 IDIOSYNCRASIES OF YOUR NEW MINI

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10. SEATBACK ADJUSTMENT

Push the outside handle down to tilt the front seat forward and access the back seat. When pushed back, the seat will automatically return to its original set position. Pull the inside handle up to adjust the angle of the front seat for comfort.



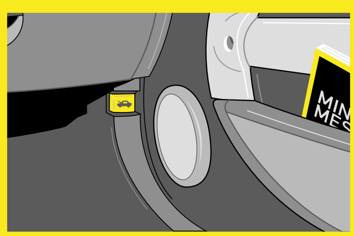
9. HEIGHT ADJUSTMENT

The adjustment lever is pumped up and down like a ratchet to adjust the seat height. Be sure not to use this lever when trying to slide the seat forward and back. There's a separate handle for that located under the seat on the opposite side. For a better understanding, see the owner's manual.



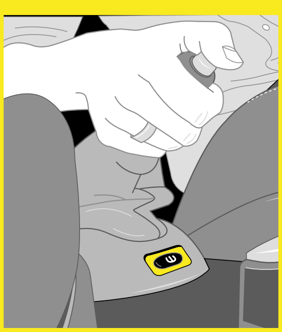
8. BOOT AND BONNET

In keeping with MINI heritage, we often refer to the hood as the "bonnet" and the trunk as the "boot." (see #7)



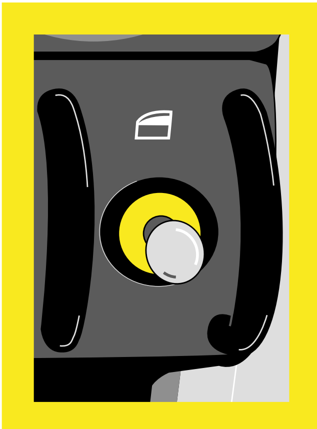
7. BONNET RELEASE

The "pop-the-hood" latch is located on the passenger side under the dashboard and glove compartment. Why? Well, the car is built in England, after all.



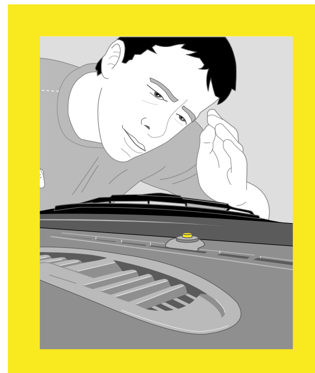
6. FLAT TIRE MONITOR BUTTON

There's a small curious button located under the hand brake. It's the Flat Tire Monitor reset button. Check out the manual for proper use and setting. And then hopefully you won't be looking for this button again anytime soon.



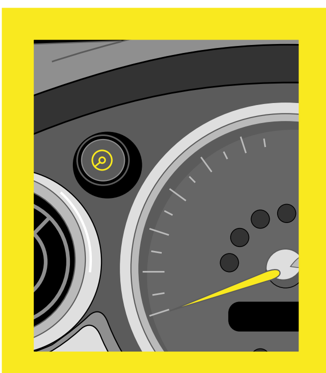
5. WINDOWS

These are controlled by toggle switches located in the center console (this is also where your door locks are). They're not located on the door or arm rest. Conveniently, there's a "one click down" feature. However, for safety reasons, there's no "one click up" feature.



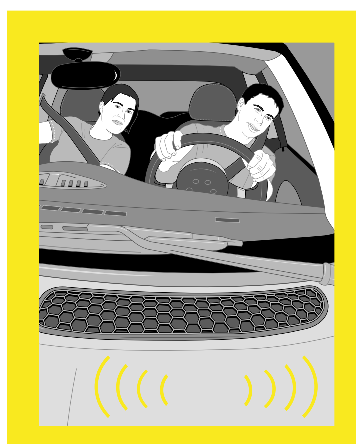
4. WHAT'S THE LITTLE "BUTTON" ON THE TOP OF THE DASH?

Actually, this is a small sensor. Not a button. It's not necessary to push it. Although you may if you want to. It's merely a UV sensor for the automatic A/C option. If you don't have automatic A/C, then you won't have the "button." Don't worry about it.



3. DASHBOARD DIMMER SWITCH

You'll notice the adjustment knob for the luminosity (it's a word, we checked) of your dashboard doesn't turn. That's because it works by successive tapping. The lights adjust incrementally according to each tap and reset back to zero after five taps.



2. POWER STEERING

Besides being a mouthful, the Electro-hydraulic Power Assisted Steering is powered by a separate electric motor so as not to drain horsepower from the engine. This motor makes a high-pitched sound when it's working properly. In a parking lot, at low speeds, you can actually hear it. Don't worry. This is normal. All systems check.



1. THUMBS UP

People like to give you the thumbs up when you drive a MINI. We're not sure why. And to be honest, there's not a lot we can do about it. Feel free to give a thumbs up in return. But know that any wave of acknowledgement or nod of the head will be happily received.